



STATE OF WASHINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OLYMPIA, WA...Dr. Robert Barker was elected December 1, 2004, by the Washington Association of Conservation Districts to represent the conservation districts on the Washington State Conservation Commission. Dr. Barker will take office on January 19, 2005.

Dr. Barker comes to the Commission well prepared to address natural resource issues. Dr. Barker received his Bachelor and Masters degrees in Biology and Physiology at the University of British Columbia before earning his PhD at the University of California, Berkeley. Following his educational pursuits, Dr. Barker served as a Professor of Biochemistry in the College of Medicine, University of Iowa, chairman of the Biochemistry Department, Michigan State University, and Professor of Biochemistry, Molecular and Cell Biology and University Provost at Cornell University. From 1991 until retirement in 1993, Dr. Barker served as the first Director of the Cornell Center for the Environment. Dr. Barker also served as a Director at Corning, Inc., and as consultant to the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Veterans Administration, the National Board of Medical Examiners, as well as the Oak Ridge and Los Alamos.

Dr. Barker retired to Whatcom County in 1993, where he owns a 75-acre certified tree farm. He has served on the Board of the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association, serves as a Master Gardener, and chairs the Whatcom Conservation District Board of Supervisors.

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Editors Note: The Washington State Conservation Commission is a state agency authorized under 89.08 RCW and was created in 1939. The Commission provides leadership, partnerships and resources to support locally governed conservation districts in promoting conservation stewardship. The Commission Board is comprised of ten members, five of whom are ex officio.